Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus for separating a slide from a substrate backing, comprising: (a) [[A]]a slide 110 for holding an array; (b) a substrate backing 125 being positioned opposite the slide; (c) a gasket 127 interposed between the slide and the substrate backing 125; and (d) a spacer 129 interposed between the slide 110 and the substrate backing 125 adjacent to the gasket 127 wherein when a sufficient force 150, 150' is applied to the substrate backing 125 and the slide 110, a portion of the slide 110 separates from the substrate backing 125 permitting disassembly of the slide 110 from the substrate backing 125.

2. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the gasket 127 comprises a deformable material.

3. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the spacer 129 comprises a substantially non-deformable material.

4. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the gasket 127 is attached to the slide 110.

5. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the gasket 127 is attached to the substrate backing 125.

6. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the gasket 127 comprises a portion of the substrate backing 125.

7. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the gasket 127 is attached to both the slide 110 and the substrate backing 125.

8. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the spacer 129 is attached to the slide 110.

9. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the spacer 129 is attached to the substrate backing 125.

10. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the spacer 129 is attached to both the slide 110 and the substrate backing 125.

11. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the spacer 129 comprises a material selected from the group consisting of polyurethanes, plastics, acrylics, metals and non-deformable or less deformable polymers.

12. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the spacer 129 is between 25 to 500 microns in height.

13. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 11, wherein the array hybridization apparatus defines an array hybridization chamber [[is]]having a height of between 25 to 1000 microns ~~in height~~.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of disassembling an array hybridization apparatus having a slide contacting a gasket and spacer, comprising: a. applying a force 150, 150' to the edge of [[the]]a slide 110 to separate a portion of the slide 110 from [[the]]a substrate backing 125.

15. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a living hinge 142 that aids in the separation of the backing 125 from the slide 110.

16. (Currently Amended) An array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a lever 164 rotatably mounted on a hinge.

17. (New) The array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein spacer 129 is spaced from gasket 127 by about 1 cm to 5 cm.

18. (New) The array hybridization apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising tabs 154, 154' extending away from substrate backing 125, slide 110, or both.